

MEETING OF THE  
COMMISSIONERS OF ELECTIONS  
HELD ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2008  
AT 1:30 P.M.  
42 BROADWAY, 6<sup>th</sup> FLOOR HEARING ROOM  
NEW YORK, NY 10004

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P R E S E N T:           James Sampel, President  
                              Frederic Umane, Secretary

Commissioners Como, Dent, Graham, O'Connor, Polanco, Schacher,  
Soumas, Yennella

Marcus Cederqvist, Executive Director  
George Gonzalez, Deputy Executive Director  
Pamela Perkins, Administrative Manager  
Steven H. Richman, General Counsel  
Valerie Vasquez, Director of Communications  
Phil Donahue, Director of Personnel  
John Ward, Finance Officer  
Valerie Vazquez, Director of Communications and Public Affairs  
Thomas Sattie, Ballot Coordinator, Candidate Records Unit  
Elliot Borack, ACCO  
Lucille Grimaldi, Director, EVS  
Karen Viggiano, Consultant, Gartner  
Gladys Fernandez, Technical Liaison, EVS  
Marilyn Reyes, Technical Writer, EVS  
Yi Yu, Senior Computer Programmer, EVS  
Beth Fossella, Coordinator, Voter Registration  
Troy Johnson, Chief Clerk, Manhattan Borough Office  
Barbara Conacchio, Chief Clerk, Queens Borough Office  
Steve Ferguson, Director, MIS  
Jack Courtney, Temporary Attorney  
Steven Denkberg, Counsel to Commissioners  
Charles Webb, Counsel to Commissioners

GUEST:   Cynthia Chu, Avante International Technology, Inc.  
          Karl Krueger, Avante International Technology, Inc.

Mary Lou Urban, League of Women Voters  
Alyssa Usui, Coordinator, Voters Assistance Commission  
Andrea Senteno, Citizen Union  
Aaron Belisle, CIDNY  
Soji Adu, Bronx Independent Living Services  
Steve DeNitto, Office of Management & Budget (OMB)  
Israel Rodriguez, NYC Council  
Mark DeSolla-Price, Pres., Community Church of NY  
Teresa Hummel, Community Church of NY

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President Sampel called the meeting to order at 1:33 P.M.

The President welcomed Executive Director Marcus Cederqvist on behalf of all the Commissioners.

President Sampel moved to approve the minutes of January 3<sup>rd</sup> and January 8<sup>th</sup>. Secretary Umame seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

President Sampel tabled the minutes of January 15, 2008. Secretary Umame seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

The Ballot Coordinator Thomas Sattie reported that the Chinese

Language Absentee and Stand-by Ballots for the Democratic Primary Election printed for the 43<sup>rd</sup> ED of the 37<sup>th</sup> AD – Queens County instructs voters to, “vote for any five”; it should read “vote for any six”. Two of these Absentee Ballots have been mailed. He asked the Commissioners for permission to resend corrected Absentee Ballots to those two voters.

The General Counsel reported that the Election Law provides that if multiple Absentee Ballots are received from the same voter the first received Absentee Ballot is deemed valid. He stated that the New York County Supreme Court and the Appellate Division, First Department upheld the literal reading of the statute which requires the Board to count the first ballot received. He noted that since there are only two voters involved, he suggests that Board staff contact those voters by telephone to advise them of the law.

Commissioner Umame moved that:

- 1) The Board reprint the incorrect ballots;
- 2) Board staff count the first Absentee Ballot received;
- 3) Board staff mail via express mail the reprinted and corrected Absentee Ballot to the affected voters as well as telephone

them to alert them of the correct number of candidates to be selected and that a correct ballot is being sent.

President Sampel seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Soumas moved that Michael Motta, an Administrative Assistant in the Manhattan Office be promoted to Administrative Associate on the Voting Machine Training Staff, effective immediately. Secretary Umame seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Polanco moved to appoint Shanette Brown as the Administrative Associate in the Finance Unit, effective immediately, in place of Ashley Irizarry who was appointed to the position on January 8, 2008. Commissioner Graham seconded the motion, which was adopted by a vote of 9 in favor (President Sampel, Secretary Umame, Commissioners Como, Dent, Graham, Polanco, Schacher, Soumas, Yennella); 1 abstention (Commissioner O'Connor).

Lucille Grimaldi, Director of EVS introduced Avante representatives who demonstrated their ballot marking device and full-face DRE.

President Sampel announced that demonstrations of Ballot Marking Devices will be held on:

- a. Thursday, January 24, 2008 - Premier
- b. Friday, January 25, 2008 - Sequoia and the next

Commissioners' meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 29, 2008 at 1:30 P.M.

President Sampel moved to adjourn. Commissioner Graham seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.